

In the Senate of the United States,

July 26, 1999.

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 2280) entitled “An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide a cost-of-living adjustment in rates of compensation paid for service-connected disabilities, to enhance the compensation, memorial affairs, and housing programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve retirement authorities applicable to judges of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and for other purposes.”, do pass with the following

AMENDMENT:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

1 ***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.***

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Compensation*
3 *Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 1999”.*

4 ***SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.***

5 *Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in*
6 *this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of*
7 *an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision,*

1 *the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or*
 2 *other provision of title 38, United States Code.*

3 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN RATES OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION**
 4 **AND DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COM-**
 5 **PENSATION.**

6 (a) *RATE ADJUSTMENT.*—*The Secretary of Veterans*
 7 *Affairs shall, effective on December 1, 1999, increase the dol-*
 8 *lar amounts in effect for the payment of disability com-*
 9 *pensation and dependency and indemnity compensation by*
 10 *the Secretary, as specified in subsection (b).*

11 (b) *AMOUNTS TO BE INCREASED.*—*The dollar*
 12 *amounts to be increased pursuant to subsection (a) are the*
 13 *following:*

14 (1) *COMPENSATION.*—*Each of the dollar amounts*
 15 *in effect under section 1114 of title 38, United States*
 16 *Code.*

17 (2) *ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPEND-*
 18 *ENTS.*—*Each of the dollar amounts in effect under*
 19 *sections 1115(1) of such title.*

20 (3) *CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.*—*The dollar amount*
 21 *in effect under section 1162 of such title.*

22 (4) *NEW DIC RATES.*—*The dollar amounts in ef-*
 23 *fect under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1311(a)*
 24 *of such title.*

1 (5) *OLD DIC RATES.*—*Each of the dollar*
2 *amounts in effect under section 1311(a)(3) of such*
3 *title.*

4 (6) *ADDITIONAL DIC FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES*
5 *WITH MINOR CHILDREN.*—*The dollar amount in effect*
6 *under section 1311(b) of such title.*

7 (7) *ADDITIONAL DIC FOR DISABILITY.*—*The dol-*
8 *lar amounts in effect under sections 1311(c) and*
9 *1311(d) of such title.*

10 (8) *DIC FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN.*—*The dol-*
11 *lar amounts in effect under sections 1313(a) and*
12 *1314 of such title.*

13 (c) *DETERMINATION OF INCREASE.*—(1) *The increase*
14 *under subsection (a) shall be made in the dollar amounts*
15 *specified in subsection (b) as in effect on November 30,*
16 *1999.*

17 (2) *Except as provided in paragraph (3), each such*
18 *amount shall be increased by the same percentage as the*
19 *percentage by which benefit amounts payable under title II*
20 *of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are in-*
21 *creased effective December 1, 1999, as a result of a deter-*
22 *mination under section 215(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C.*
23 *415(i)).*

1 (3) *Each dollar amount increased pursuant to para-*
 2 *graph (2) shall, if not a whole dollar amount, be rounded*
 3 *down to the next lower whole dollar amount.*

4 (d) *SPECIAL RULE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs*
 5 *may adjust administratively, consistent with the increases*
 6 *made under subsection (a), the rates of disability compensa-*
 7 *tion payable to persons within the purview of section 10*
 8 *of Public Law 85–857 (72 Stat. 1263) who are not in re-*
 9 *ceipt of compensation payable pursuant to chapter 11 of*
 10 *title 38, United States Code.*

11 **SEC. 4. PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTED RATES.**

12 *At the same time as the matters specified in section*
 13 *215(i)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.*
 14 *415(i)(2)(D)) are required to be published by reason of a*
 15 *determination made under section 215(i) of such Act during*
 16 *fiscal year 2000, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pub-*
 17 *lish in the Federal Register the amounts specified in sub-*
 18 *section (b) of section 3, as increased pursuant to that sec-*
 19 *tion.*

20 **SEC. 5. DISABILITY COMPENSATION RATE AMENDMENTS.**

21 *Section 1114 is amended—*

22 (1) *by striking “\$95” in subsection (a) and in-*
 23 *serting “\$96”;*

24 (2) *by striking “\$182” in subsection (b) and in-*
 25 *serting “\$184”;*

1 (3) by striking “\$279” in subsection (c) and in-
2 serting “\$282”;

3 (4) by striking “\$399” in subsection (d) and in-
4 serting “\$404”;

5 (5) by striking “\$569” in subsection (e) and in-
6 serting “\$576”;

7 (6) by striking “\$717” in subsection (f) and in-
8 serting “\$726”;

9 (7) by striking “\$905” in subsection (g) and in-
10 serting “\$916”;

11 (8) by striking “\$1,049” in subsection (h) and
12 inserting “\$1,062”;

13 (9) by striking “\$1,181” in subsection (i) and
14 inserting “\$1,196”;

15 (10) by striking “\$1,964” in subsection (j) and
16 inserting “\$1,989”;

17 (11) by striking “\$2,443” and “\$3,426” in sub-
18 section (k) and inserting “\$2,474” and “\$3,470”, re-
19 spectively;

20 (12) by striking “\$2,443” in subsection (l) and
21 inserting “\$2,474”;

22 (13) by striking “\$2,694” in subsection (m) and
23 inserting “\$2,729”;

24 (14) by striking “\$3,066” in subsection (n) and
25 inserting “\$3,105”;

1 (15) by striking “\$3,426” each place it appears
2 in subsections (o) and (p) and inserting “\$3,470”;

3 (16) by striking “\$1,471” and “\$2,190” in sub-
4 section (r) and inserting “\$1,490” and “\$2,218”, re-
5 spectively; and

6 (17) by striking “\$2,199” in subsection (s) and
7 inserting “\$2,227”.

8 **SEC. 6. RATE AMENDMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSA-**
9 **TION FOR DEPENDENTS.**

10 Section 1115(1) is amended—

11 (1) by striking “\$114” in clause (A) and insert-
12 ing “\$115”;

13 (2) by striking “\$195” in clause (B) and insert-
14 ing “\$197”;

15 (3) by striking “\$78” in clause (C) and inserting
16 “\$79”;

17 (4) by striking “\$92” in clause (D) and insert-
18 ing “\$93”;

19 (5) by striking “\$215” in clause (E) and insert-
20 ing “\$217”; and

21 (6) by striking “\$180” in clause (F) and insert-
22 ing “\$182”.

1 **SEC. 7. RATE AMENDMENT FOR CLOTHING ALLOWANCE**
 2 **FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS.**

3 *Section 1162 is amended by striking “\$528” and in-*
 4 *serting “\$534”.*

5 **SEC. 8. RATE AMENDMENTS FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY**
 6 **COMPENSATION FOR SURVIVING**
 7 **SPOUSES.**

8 *(a) NEW LAW RATES.—Section 1311(a) is amended—*

9 *(1) by striking “\$850” in paragraph (1) and in-*
 10 *serting “\$861”; and*

11 *(2) by striking “\$185” in paragraph (2) and in-*
 12 *serting “\$187”.*

13 *(b) OLD LAW RATES.—The table in section 1311(a)(3)*
 14 *is amended to read as follows:*

<i>“Pay grade</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>Pay grade</i>	<i>Monthly</i>
<i>rate</i>		<i>rate</i>	
<i>E-1</i>	<i>\$861</i>	<i>W-4</i>	<i>\$1,030</i>
<i>E-2</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>O-1</i>	<i>909</i>
<i>E-3</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>O-2</i>	<i>940</i>
<i>E-4</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>O-3</i>	<i>1,004</i>
<i>E-5</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>O-4</i>	<i>1,062</i>
<i>E-6</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>O-5</i>	<i>1,170</i>
<i>E-7</i>	<i>890</i>	<i>O-6</i>	<i>1,318</i>
<i>E-8</i>	<i>940</i>	<i>O-7</i>	<i>1,424</i>
<i>E-9</i>	<i>¹980</i>	<i>O-8</i>	<i>1,561</i>
<i>W-1</i>	<i>909</i>	<i>O-9</i>	<i>1,672</i>
<i>W-2</i>	<i>946</i>	<i>O-10</i>	<i>²1,834</i>
<i>W-3</i>	<i>974</i>		

“¹If the veteran served as sergeant major of the Army, senior enlisted advisor of the Navy, chief master sergeant of the Air Force, sergeant major of the Marine Corps, or master chief petty officer of the Coast Guard, at the applicable time designated by section 1302 of this title, the surviving spouse’s rate shall be \$1,057.

“²If the veteran served as Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Chief of Staff of the Army, Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Commandant of the Marine Corps, or Commandant of the Coast Guard, at the applicable time designated by section 1302 of this title, the surviving spouse’s rate shall be \$1,966.”.

1 (c) *ADDITIONAL DIC FOR CHILDREN.*—Section
 2 1311(b) is amended by striking “\$215” and inserting
 3 “\$217”.

4 (d) *AID AND ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE.*—Section
 5 1311(c) is amended by striking “\$215” and inserting
 6 “\$217”.

7 (e) *HOUSEBOUND RATE.*—Section 1311(d) is amended
 8 by striking “\$104” and inserting “\$105”.

9 **SEC. 9. RATE AMENDMENTS FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDE-**
 10 **MUNITY COMPENSATION FOR CHILDREN.**

11 (a) *DIC FOR ORPHAN CHILDREN.*—Section 1313(a) is
 12 amended—

13 (1) by striking “\$361” in paragraph (1) and in-
 14 serting “\$365”;

15 (2) by striking “\$520” in paragraph (2) and in-
 16 serting “\$526”;

17 (3) by striking “\$675” in paragraph (3) and in-
 18 serting “\$683”; and

19 (4) by striking “\$675” and “\$132” in paragraph
 20 (4) and inserting “\$683” and “\$133”, respectively.

21 (b) *SUPPLEMENTAL DIC FOR DISABLED ADULT CHIL-*
 22 *DREN.*—Section 1314 is amended—

23 (1) by striking “\$215” in subsection (a) and in-
 24 serting “\$217”;

1 (2) *by striking “\$361” in subsection (b) and in-*
2 *serting “\$365”; and*

3 (3) *by striking “\$182” in subsection (c) and in-*
4 *serting “\$184”.*

5 **SEC. 10. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

6 *The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on*
7 *November 30, 1999.*

Attest:

Secretary.

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2280

AMENDMENT